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DCTS Action Memo 2019-11

To: County Departments of Community Programs
County Departments of Health and Human Services
County Departments of Human Services
Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators

From: Rose Kleman, Division Administrator

State Opioid Response: Grants for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment

Document summary

This memo describes the procedure for counties and tribes to request State Opioid Response (SOR) funding from the Department of Health Services Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) for the purpose of increasing access to Food and Drug Administration-approved forms of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder, decreasing opioid use disorder treatment denials and waitlists, and addressing other unmet opioid use disorder treatment needs for the period September 30, 2019, through September 29, 2020.

Background

The Department of Health Services is using a portion of Wisconsin's share of the SOR grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to provide funding to counties and tribes specifically for the purpose of increasing access to Food and Drug Administration-approved forms of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder, decreasing treatment denials and waitlists, and addressing unmet treatment needs.

Eligibility for funding

Counties and tribes with a demonstrated need for this funding are eligible to apply. Priority will be given to counties and tribes based on a recent statewide needs assessment that determined areas of highest need. [View the list of priority areas](#). Counties and tribes currently receiving SOR funding for opioid use treatment services are eligible to apply. Counties and tribes not identified as priority areas are eligible to apply. Applications from areas not identified as priority areas must include information that illustrates why there is a high-need for funding for the county or tribe.

Application process

Information to be submitted for funding consideration

Applications are due September 12, 2019, for implementing contracts starting September 30, 2019, for funding available through September 29, 2020. Using the [SOR Grant Program Funding Request F-02122](#), each county or tribe must describe unmet opioid treatment and recovery needs, the number of additional people the county or tribe is able to serve, a description of planned services, and the cost to provide these services. Awards will be based on need, number of people county or tribe will be able to

serve, and prorated based on the amount of funding available. These awards will not be made as an appendix to the state-county contract. These awards will be stand-alone contracts for the grant period.

Applicants must ensure accuracy when reporting the number of individuals they are able to serve and amount of funds they can spend during the contract period. There will be no carryover funding as part of this opportunity.

Another year of funding may be available. If available, this funding would be provided based on performance in this grant period. All contract requirements for this grant period must be met to be eligible for potential funding in future years.

Conditions for funding

In order to qualify to receive this SOR funding, counties and tribes must agree to meet the conditions of funding and address the criteria below in a narrative. The narrative can be in the form of a cover letter or attached document. SOR funding requires the following:

- The applicant is expected to increase the number of people with substance use disorder served during the grant period over the number served in calendar year 2019. The applicant is expected to increase the amount of annual substance use disorder expenditures during the grant period over the amount expended in calendar year 2019.
- Recipients must report on three types of data.
 - Client-level data through the Program Participation System (PPS)
 - Expenditures through the PPS.
 - Government Performance and Results Modernization Act (GPRA) of 2010 data collection, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration-required elements regarding clients served, including diagnosis, demographic characteristics, substance use, services received, types of medication-assisted treatment received, length of stay, criminal justice involvement, and housing. GPRA data should be collected at intake, six months post intake, and discharge. These data elements are required for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration to meet its obligations under GPRA. An approved GPRA data collection tool will be provided along with training.

NOTE: DCTS will negotiate with tribes regarding a client-level data and expenditure reporting method having adequate integrity. This may include an extract from the Indian Health Service Resource and Patient Management System or other in-house database or accounting system.

- Each grantee must develop a system within their programming to register clients into PPS to generate a unique ID number for use in administering GPRA to clients served with SOR grant funds at each data collection point. **GPRA training and technical assistance will be provided.**
- Counties must comply with all local (city, county) and state requirements for licensing, accreditation, and certification. Tribes must comply with all applicable tribal requirements for licensing, accreditation, and certification or explain that licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements do not exist.
- Counties and tribes must use evidence-based practices for opioid addiction treatment, including access to medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. Applicant must agree that it will not deny or limit persons the opportunity to receive pharmacotherapy (buprenorphine and naltrexone formulations). Applicants proposing to serve a population with a practice that has not been formally evaluated with that population are required to provide evidence that the practice(s) they propose is appropriate for the population(s) of focus. Evidence for these practices may include unpublished studies, preliminary evaluation results, clinical (or other professional association) guidelines,

findings from focus groups with community members, etc. Applicant may describe experience either with the population(s) of focus or in managing similar programs. Information in support of the proposed practice needs to be sufficient to demonstrate the appropriateness of the applicant's practice.

- Counties and tribes must permit access to opioid use disorder services for people reentering communities from criminal justice settings or other rehabilitation settings.
- Counties and tribes must begin delivering services on or prior to September 29, 2019.
- Counties and tribes who complete this application process and are awarded funds must provide DCTS with a list of subcontractors and Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers.

Timeline

The following process will be used for the review and approval of these funds:

- Counties and tribes must email a completed [SOR Grant Program Funding Request F-02122](#) and a narrative addressing the conditions for funding to [Jason Harris](#) by September 12, 2019.
- Staff in the DCTS Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery will review the applications and forward recommendations to the DCTS Administrator's Office for final approval.
- Staff in the DCTS Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery will contact selected counties and tribes regarding awarding of funds and contracting after final approval.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT

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CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT

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